

Hydrogels

Abstract

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Described are water-insoluble water-swellaable hydrogels which have been coated with steric or electrostatic spacers and which have the following pre-coating features:

- 10 - Absorbency Under Load (AUL) (0.7 psi) of at least 20 g/g,
- Gel strength of at least 1 600 Pa,

and preferably the following post-coating features:

- 15 - Centrifuge Retention Capacity (CRC) of at least 24 g/g,
- Saline Flow Conductivity (SFC) of at least $30 \times 10^{-7} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s/g}$ and
- Free Swell Rate (FSR) of at least 0.15 g/g s and/or Vortex Time of not more than 160 s.

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